



Minutes Tempe Veterans Commission December 4, 2018

Minutes of the TEMPE VETERANS COMMISSION held on Tuesday, December 4, 6:00 p.m., at the Military & Veteran Success Center, 3320 South Price Road, Tempe, Arizona.

(MEMBERS) Present:

Keith Finkle, Chair
Troy Friedman, Vice-Chair
William Blair
Patricia Little-Upah
Michelle Loposky
David Lucier
Matthew Schmitt
Laura Skotnicki

(MEMBERS) Absent:

Lauren Hyre

City Staff Present:

Octavia Harris, Human Services Deputy Director
Parrish Spisz, Council Aide II+
Robin Arredondo-Savage, Councilmember
Melissa Placencia, Administrative Assistant II+

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order

Chair Keith Finkle called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances

None

Agenda Item 3 – Review and Approval of September 4, 2018 minutes

MOTION: Motion to APPROVE September 4, 2018 minutes by Commission Member William Blair

SECOND: Motion seconded by Commission Member Patricia Little-Upah

YAYS: Chair Keith Finkle, Vice-Chair Troy Friedman, Commission Members William Blair, Patricia Little-Upah, Michelle Loposky, David Lucier, Matthew Schmitt, and Laura Skotnicki

ABSENT: Lauren Hyre

Agenda Item 4 – Review and Approval of November 6, 2018 minutes

MOTION: Motion to APPROVE November 6, 2018 minutes by Commission Member William Blair

SECOND: Motion seconded by Commission Member Patricia Little-Upah

YAYS: Chair Keith Finkle, Vice-Chair Troy Friedman, Commission Members William Blair, Patricia Little-Upah, Michelle Loposky, David Lucier, Matthew Schmitt, and Laura Skotnicki
ABSENT: Lauren Hyre

Agenda Item 5 – East Valley Veterans Court Support

The East Valley Regional Veterans Court requested permission to list members of the Tempe Veterans Commission as supporters towards a grant application process to the Arizona Department of Veterans Services. Motion by Commission Member David Lucier that the Tempe Veterans Commission formally support the East Valley Regional Veterans Court; Motion seconded; Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Motion to formally support the East Valley Regional Veterans Court in the grant process by Commission Member Laura Skotnicki

SECOND: Motion seconded by Commission Member David Lucier

YAYS: Chair Keith Finkle, Vice-Chair Troy Friedman, Commission Members William Blair, Patricia Little-Upah, Michelle Loposky, David Lucier, Matthew Schmitt, and Laura Skotnicki

ABSENT: Lauren Hyre

Agenda Item 6 – Review and Approve 2018 Tempe Veterans Commission Annual Report

Presentations made by Commission Members on behalf of the Tempe Veterans Commission will be listed as accomplishments. Commission Members will send a list of presentations to Melissa Placencia no later than Wednesday, December 5, 2018.

MOTION: Motion to APPROVE the 2018 Tempe Veterans Commission Annual Report as discussed by Commission Member Laura Skotnicki

SECOND: Motion seconded by Commission Member David Lucier

YAYS: Chair Keith Finkle, Vice-Chair Troy Friedman, Commission Members William Blair, Patricia Little-Upah, Michelle Loposky, David Lucier, Matthew Schmitt, and Laura Skotnicki

ABSENT: Lauren Hyre

Agenda Item 7 – Veterans Commission Officer Elections

MOTION: Motion to appoint Vice-Chair Troy Friedman as Chair by Commission Member David Lucier

SECOND: Motion seconded by Commission Member Patricia Little-Upah

YAYS: Chair Keith Finkle, Vice-Chair Troy Friedman, Commission Members William Blair, Patricia Little-Upah, Michelle Loposky, David Lucier, Matthew Schmitt, and Laura Skotnicki

ABSENT: Lauren Hyre

MOTION: Motion to appoint Commission Member Matthew Schmitt as Vice-Chair by Commission Member Michelle Loposky

SECOND: Motion seconded by Commission Member Troy Friedman

YAYS: Chair Keith Finkle, Vice-Chair Troy Friedman, Commission Members William Blair, Patricia Little-Upah, Michelle Loposky, David Lucier, Matthew Schmitt, and Laura Skotnicki

ABSENT: Lauren Hyre

Agenda Item 8 – Veterans Commission Awards Discussion

The Commission discussed looking at Veteran Supportive employers and “certify” them as such with a seal and/or recognizing employer’s best practices. Commission Member David Lucier would like to recognize individuals on their work in the community annually at a city council meeting or as an “add-on” to an event. Commission Member Laura

Skotnicki noted that community salutes would be more appropriate. Councilmember Robin Arredondo-Savage suggested the Commission compile a formal proposal

Agenda Item 9 – Military and Veterans Success Center Update – Vice-Chair, Troy Friedman

- Recently awarded a grant through Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC) and Maricopa County Industrial Development Authority (IDA) for \$500,00 for Pipeline Arizona

Agenda Item 10 – Commission Member Updates/Announcements

Chair Keith Finkle announced he will be resigning but will remain involved in the Commissions efforts.

Agenda Item 11 – Future Agenda Items – January 8, 2019

Agenda Item 13 - Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Next meeting will be on January 8, 2019

Minutes Prepared by: Melissa Placencia
Reviewed by: Octavia Harris

Troy Friedman, Chair
Tempe Veterans Commission